(Text of the telegram sent by the Prime Minister to His Excellency,
President Lyndon B. Johnson, Washington; Friday, November 22, 23:15 hrs.)

THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF ISRAEL AND I PERSONALLY ARE SHOCKED AND DEEPLY GRIEVED BY THE TRAGIC AND DASTARDLY ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY.

HE PROVED HIMSELF TO BE A GREAT AND DYNAMIC PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND A COURAGEOUS LEADER OF THE FREE WORLD WHO AROUSED HOPE IN THE HEARTS OF ALL MANKIND.

HE WAS, DURING HIS PRESIDENCY AS DURING HIS EARLIER CAREER, A STAUNCH FRIEND OF ISRAEL.

PLEASE CONVEY THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF ISRAEL, AS WELL AS MY OWN CONDOLENCES, TO MRS. KENNEDY, HER CHILDREN, AND ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE LATE PRESIDENT'S FAMILY, AS WELL AS TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES ON THEIR IRREPARABLE LOSS.

LEVI ESHKOL
PRIME MINISTER